

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 QUEBEC 00254 081313Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00
PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 DHA-02 CU-04 /075 W
-----103136 081317Z /46

P 071955Z JUL 77

FM AMCONSUL QUEBEC
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1038
INFO AMEMBASSY OTTAWA PRIORITY
AMCONSUL MONTREAL
AMCONSUL TORONTO
AMCONSUL HALIFAX

UNCLAS QUEBEC 0254

EO 11652: NA
TAGS: PINT CA
SUBJ: RENE SMOKES PEACE PIPE

1. RENE LEVESQUE VISITED QUEBEC'S NORTH ON JULY 5 TO ASSURE "NATIVE PEOPLES" THAT THEY WOULD BE EXEMPT FROM BILL ONE, QUEBEC'S PROPOSED OFFICIAL LANGUAGE LAW. AT THE SAME TIME, CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT MINISTER LAURIN GAVE SIMILAR UNDERSTANDING TO INDIAN REPRESENTATIVES AT COMMITTEE HEARINGS ON BILL ONE IN QUEBEC CITY. LAURIN ASSURED INDIANS THAT PROPOSED LANGUAGE LEGISLATION WOULD BE AMENDED TO GUARANTEE NATIVE PEOPLES RIGHT TO SCHOOLING IN THEIR OWN LANGUAGE OR IN ENGLISH. MOREOVER, ORGANIZATIONS ESTABLISHED BY NATIVE PEOPLES WILL BE EXEMPT FROM REQUIREMENT TO USE FRENCH AS WORKING LANGUAGE, LAURIN SAID. IN SHOW OF GOOD WILL AT FORT RUPERT, LEVESQUE TOLD INDIANS THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WOULD RESPECT JAMES BAY AGREEMENT OF 1975 WHICH GRANTED NATIVE PEOPLES LIVING NORTH OF 55TH PARALLEL THE RIGHT TO FREEDOM OF CHOICE IN LANGUAGE OF SCHOOLING AS WELL AS IN SOCIAL AND HEALTH SERVICES.

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2. COMMENT: STUNG BY CRITICISM THAT HIS GOVERNMENT IS THREATENING THE RIGHTS OF DEFENSELESS NATIVE PEOPLES, LEVESQUE MADE DRAMATIC TRIP TO NORTH TO REASSURE INDIANS THAT THEIR RIGHTS AS PRIVILEGED MINORITY WOULD BE RESPECTED. GESTURE WAS ONLY PARTLY IMPELLED BY POLITICAL NEED TO REMOVE PRETEXT FOR FEDERAL INTERVENTION ON BEHALF OF NATIVE PEOPLES. LEVESQUE WAS ALSO DISTURBED, AS LONG TIME CHAMPION OF UNDERDOG CAUSES, THAT

HIS GOVERNMENT MIGHT BE THOUGHT TO BE GUILTY OF INFRINGEMENT OF RIGHT
S
OF DEFENSELESS MINORITY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: HUMAN RIGHTS, LAW, SPEECHES, OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 07-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977QUEBEC00254
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770243-0126
Format: TEL
From: QUEBEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Line Count: 66
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Message ID: aa58a66f-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Original Previous Classification: n/a
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1936872
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: RENE SMOKES PEACE PIPE
TAGS: PINT, CA, (LEVESQUE, RENE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
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